



Opening reception
Friday, February 20th, 7pm



EXYZT 24/7

We will act to defend architecture that is plural, used, complex, diverse, real and alive; architecture that is about action and interaction, formation and deformation and appropriation.

Situation Room as playground for [re] creation, collective action, active occupation, open demonstration, and social games will be intuitive, interactive and collective performance, revealing a directory of tools and knowledge for everyday life. For architecture of process, of fabrication, reaction and interaction, members of Exyzt will inhabit the gallery space, making use of the furnishings as though it were a domestic space.

Rather than showing past projects, Exyzt will set up a platform for creation and solidarity, inviting people to transform the classic use of the gallery, to experiment diversity of programs and activities with basic cheap materials forming moveable boxes activated with the Storefront staff.

We propose a platform for action, defending an architecture that is alive. EXYZT shakes up the idea of architecture as an independent field. Working on experimental projects, EXYZT invites architecture, video, graphic-design, botany and any other concept to become devices of expression and creation.

Like a series of disparate notes, ready-to-assemble elements will be put together in situ to create this modular, domestic place: rapidly assembled viral constructions that can be implemented to create and augment a social space. Little by little, each limb of this strange apartment will grow new functions, allowing its users to do more and more things, to occupy and work in its ever-changing space. After the basic living space has been assembled an essential urban infrastructure will be added: water, electricity, radio, TV, Internet, etc. ... Once complete, a vast variety of individual modules will occupy the gallery space to be used for a moment, a day, or a whole night. Lightness, speed and flexibility will be essential ingredients of the set-up.

The collective carries out temporary set-ups. Each project is in line with a precise and determined time and spatial frame. The units can be shaped and rearranged to become a living and sitting space, a workspace equipped with a desk, computers and tools, or a dining room, among other forms. From week to week the space will evolve, taking on different ephemeral forms and functions with the public. The situation becomes the physical medium through which a creative and collective game is expressed. The series of projects questions the relationship between public and private and encourages the audience

to move from being a spectator to being an actor too.

Exyzt invites the audience to reconsider occupied areas in a well-defined time-frame. The collective conceives and organizes each project as a ludic playground where cultural behaviours and shared stories relate, mix and mingle.

Created in 2003 on the initiative of five architects, Exyzt produced and organized a self-constructed and self-documented project on a n abandoned plot of land in Parc de la Villette, in Paris. By opening up to various fields, the collective group attempts to render architecture into a different perspective.

Our team is now a community of people who have chosen to act under the same principle of sharing knowledge and abilities, imagining the environment as the terrain of a participatory game, a site for play and appropriation, creating 'transient micro ambiances as Guy Debord described the constructed situation.

Construction will constitute the first movement. Act!

Text by Philippe Rizzotti & Dimitri Messu

Tentative schedule

Monday 16

gallery occupation

Eleven people arriving and having a day to find solution to sleep in Storefront. Basic needs.

Tuesday 17

collective insulation

Problem will be insulation ... how to close the amazing Storefront façade, so as not to freeze in the night.

Wednesday 18 @ 7pm

participatory sustenance

Basic needs are supposed to be fixed by now. By night, we will be organizing the first dinner, that's why we need the table; helping us work easily.

Thursday 19

progressive illumination

Lighting and video set-up. Preparation of the opening performance.

Friday 20 @ 7pm - OPENING

Performance inauguration

Exhibition set-up. Making the place attractive, diverse and fun.

Saturday 21 @ 7pm

Exyzt Feast

Discussion time. People introduce themselves and what they do. Big dinner - Serge will roast a pig.

Sunday 22 @ 12.30pm

Au revoir

Brunch



www.exyzt.org

with:

Philippe Deangeli (Lighting Designer) + Dagmar Dudinsky (Graphic Designer) + Fernando Favier (Music Composer) + Christophe Goutes (Sound Cooker) + Diego Monet (Director) + Brice Pelleschi (Photographer) + Virginie Perrot (Painter) + Alexander Römer (Architect & Carpenter) + Philippe Rizzotti (Architect) + Pier Schneider (Video-artist & Architect) + François Wunschel (Video-Artist & Architect) + Storefront Staff and Volunteers + Guests

About Storefront

Since 1982 Storefront has presented the work of more than a thousand architects and artists who challenge conventional perceptions of space – from aesthetic experiments to explorations of the conceptual, social and political forces that shape the built environment. Storefront creates an open forum to help architects and artists realize work and present it to a diverse audience in a program that includes an exhibition, film, publication and conversation series. In 1993, Storefront commissioned a collaborative building project by artist Vito Accorci and architect Steven Holl. The project replaced the existing facade with a series of twelve panels that pivot vertically or horizontally to open the entire length of the gallery directly onto the street. The project blurs the boundary between interior and exterior and, by placing the panels in different configurations, creates a multitude of different possible facades. Now regarded as a contemporary architectural landmark, Storefront's facade is visited by artists, architects and students from around the world.

Director

Joseph Grima

Development

Susannah C. Bohlke

Producer

César Augusto Cotta

Curatorial Assistant

Martin Schapiro

Interns

Dana Kopel, Kyle OConnor, Melissa Schwegmann, Faris al-Shathir, Danny Wills, Heather Anderson, Irene Chin

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Gallery hours

Tuesday-Saturday 11am-6pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

Gallery location

The gallery is located at 97 Kenmare Street, between Mulberry and Lafayette Streets.
Trains: 6 to Spring; N/R to Prince; B/D/F/V to Broadway Lafayette

Storefront's programs are made possible with support from the New York State Council for the Arts, a state agency and New York City Department for Cultural Affairs, Citizens for NYC, the Stephen A. and Diana L. Goldberg Foundation, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, LLMC and the Lily Auchincloss Foundation. Support is also provided by Storefront's Board of Directors, members and individuals.

For more information about upcoming programs and supporting Storefront please see our website at www.storefront.org or call +1 212 431 5795.

EXYZT-SITUATION ROOM is made possible with the generous support of the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts.